Decline in Tourist inflow from Germany and U.S.A.

766. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is decrease in the inflow of tourists from countries such as Germany and the United States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether tourist offices abroad could help in fetching more tourists; and

(d) the steps proposed to promote tourism abroad with more sincerity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UMA BHARTI): (a) There is no decrease in the flow of tourist from United States in 1998. The traffic from Germany showed decline in 1998.

(b) Some of the factors adversely affecting traffic from Germany reported to be adverse reaction to India's nuclear test, rising trend of regional travel rather than long haul destinations, availability of international air seats during peak seasons etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Various steps proposed to promote tourism abroad include more focus on marketing coverage, use of information technology for dissemination of tourist information, promoting India as a tourist destination through organising seminars, workshops, road shows, etc. and developing joint promotion programmes with the travel industry.

Development of Tourism in North-Eastern States

767. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the up-dated measures of Tourism development in the North-Eastern Region on State-wise basis;

(b) the details of income from tourism for each state of North-Eastern Region during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and